

Delta County School District 50J

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District Accreditation

Delta County Schools received the district accreditation report from the Colorado Department of Education. It is a genuine celebration! The district has made improvement in the last three years in the annual results by going from 60.9% of the total accreditation points possible to 71.0% of possible points. These percentage scores put the district in the upper portion of the “accredited” category using CDE’s matrix that is based upon the CSAP growth model, CSAP status, closing achievement gaps, post-secondary readiness, and finance along with school safety. These 5 categories are numerically calculated by CDE and the school district’s accreditation is determined from these calculations. We used a similar process to accredit schools in September.

The highest category of accreditation is “Accreditation with Distinction” and it would seem that this category is very attainable because it is based upon the district earning 75% or more of the total accreditation points possible. We are currently at 71.0%. What would be required for the district to move up these four percentage points?

In reviewing the detail of the accreditation report, it would require most categories to advance, although some are very close. Our total district reading scores would have to move up by 5.1 percentile points. District writing scores would have to advance 6.2 percentile points and the math scores would have to move up 5.4 percentile points. The largest gap is in the high school math scores which are 12.3 percentile points below being at the levels required for distinction. Additionally, ACT scores are below required levels by only .73 of one point! Raising each of these achievement levels would easily earn Delta County Schools 75% of the accreditation points possible.

Only a few school districts in the state are rated as accredited with distinction and Delta County Schools would like to join this elite group. Continuing our focused approach to student achievement and standards based instruction have shown great gains in the past three years, will certainly accomplish this outstanding recognition for our district. The hard work of our principals, teachers and staff is paying off. Let’s keep up the efforts to push over the top in accreditation.